

Serial No. 10/710,272
Docket No. FIS920030389US1 (FIS.082)

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 and 23-30 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 16-22 are withdrawn as being directed toward a non-elected invention.

It is noted that the claim amendments, if any, are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 1-15, and 23-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,909,151 to Hareland.

Applicants traverse this rejection in the discussion that follows.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

As described and defined in, for example, claim 1, the present invention is directed to a method of forming an electronic device, including forming at least one localized stressor region within the device.

Conventional methods, such as described in paragraphs [0005] through [0007], strain FinFETs by Si or SiGe, but have caused defects, thereby lowering yields.

The claimed invention, on the other hand, provides a localized stressor embedded within the device.

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II. THE PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

The Examiner alleges that Hareland teaches the claimed invention defined in claims 1-15 and 23-30. Applicants submit, however, that there are elements of the claimed invention which are neither taught nor suggested by Hareland.

Hareland discloses a FinFET device in which a film is deposited on top of the device that imparts stress in the channel of the device, thereby modifying the charge transport properties in the channel (mobility). The method in Hareland is almost identical to that taught in Assignee's patent US Patent Application 10/536,483, filed as a PCT Application on November 25, 2002, over a half year prior to Hareland's filing date.

In contrast to Hareland, the exemplary embodiment of the present invention provides an embedded stressor structure specifically in the fin connector part of the device (e.g., "localized ... within the device") that imparts stress in the channel of the FinFET. Dependent claims further define that the localized stressors are located on specific structures within the device.

Hence, turning to the clear language of the claims, in Hareland there is no teaching or suggestion of: "...forming at least one localized stressor region within said device", as required by independent claim 1. The remaining independent claims have similar language.

Moreover, as defined exemplarily by dependent claim 6 and 7, there is no teaching in Hareland of forming the localized stressor as isolated on the fin connectors or the source/drain regions of the device.

Therefore, Applicant submits that there are elements of the claimed invention that are not taught or suggest by Hareland. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

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III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION


In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-15 and 23-30, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully Submitted,

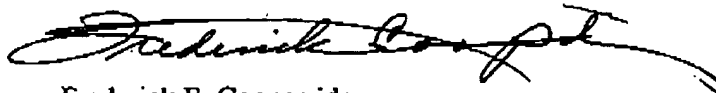
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 this Amendment under 37 CFR §1.116 to Examiner H. Jey Tsai on July 10, 2006.


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